

**CUSTOMER NO.: 24498**  
**Serial No.: 10/520,854**  
**Office Action dated: August 29, 2007**  
**Response dated: November 9, 2007**

**PATENT**  
**PU020335**

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please replace the paragraph for the Abstract with the following paragraph.

Method (300) and apparatus for validating application level gateway (ALG)-files or firewall ~~rulesets~~ rule sets. The method and apparatus include receiving, at a bi-directional communications device, an application level gateway file, and comparing at least one compatibility parameter of said ALG file with features of said bi-directional communications device. In an instance where all of the compatibility parameters compare favorably, the ALG file is stored at the bi-directional communications device.